Meeting of the National Water Resources Council

4373. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister convened a meeting of the National Water Resources Council on 1st April, 2002 to adopt the long pending National Water Policy;

(b) if so, the total number of Chief Ministers who attended the meeting;

(c) what are the main subjects discussed;

(d) whether any final decision in this regard has been reached; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The fifth meeting of the National Water Resources Council (NWRC), was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 1st April, 2002 to consider the draft revised National Water Policy. The meeting was attended by eight Chief Ministers, one Governor, two Lt. Governors and one Administrator. The other States were represented by their respective Ministers dealing with water resources/irrigation. The Revised National Water Policy, with certain modifications made in light of the views expressed and suggestions made by the members of the Council, was adopted and a Resolution to this effect was unanimously passed by the Council. The Policy, inter-alia, envisages that each State should formulate its own State Water Policy backed with an operational action plan in a time-bound manner within a period of two years and implement the same in order to achieve the desired objectives as laid down in the policy.